

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

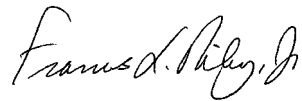
Farm Service Agency
Washington, DC 20250

Notice PM-2337

For: FSA Employees

Announcing the 2003 USDA 1890 National Scholars Program

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Management



1 Overview

**A
Program
Announcement**

Agriculture Secretary Ann M. Veneman has announced that applications are being accepted for the USDA 1890 National Scholars Program for the school year beginning September 2003.

**B
Program Purpose**

This program:

- strengthens the long-term partnership between FSA and the 1890 Land-Grant Institutions
- increases the number of students studying agriculture, food, natural resource sciences, or other related disciplines
- offers career opportunities to 1890 National Scholars at FSA. Scholars who satisfactorily complete the program and meet all requirements are appointed into a career-conditional position.

Continued on the next page

Disposal Date

February 1, 2003

Distribution

All FSA employees; State Offices relay to
County Offices

1 Overview (Continued)

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Questions

For more information on the 1890 National Scholars Program, visit <http://1890Scholars.Program.USDA.gov> or contact:

National Program Coordinator	State Program Coordinator
C. Mondina Jolley FSA, HRD, DOB 202-418-8992	Vera Byers FSA, KC, OA, Personnel Division 816-926-1710

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Award Information

Scholarships are awarded annually that must be used at one of the seventeen 1890 Land-Grant Institutions. Each award provides annual tuition, employment, employee benefits, use of a personal computer and software while on scholarship, fees, books, room and board for each of the four academic years, plus a requirement to work in the Student Education Employment Program. Each annual scholarship renewal is contingent upon satisfactory performance and normal progress toward the bachelor's degree.

Upon completion of the scholar's academic degree program, there is an obligation of one year of service to FSA for each year of financial support.

2 Requesting Scholars

A

Number of FY 2003 Scholars

FSA expects to accept three USDA 1890 National Scholars in FY 2003.

B

Requesting Scholars

Contact Mondina Jolley to request a scholar.

While the scholar is still a student, offices are not held accountable for FTE. Upon converting the student to a permanent appointment after graduation, the office shall use an FTE slot from their existing FTE ceiling.

3 Scholar Nomination Process

A

Nominee Qualifications

Nominees must:

- be a U.S. citizen
 - be an entering freshman
 - hold a high school diploma or G.E.D. certificate
 - have a high school GPA of 3.0 or better
 - have a combined verbal and math score of 1,000 or more on SAT or a composite score of 21 or more on ACT
 - attend one of the seventeen 1890 Historically Black Land-Grant Institutions
 - study agriculture, food, natural resource sciences, or other related disciplines
 - demonstrate leadership and community service
 - apply for admission to the 1890 Institution(s) of his or her choice
 - submit an official transcript with the school seal and an authorized official's signature
 - sign all applications (original signature only).
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B

Eligible Scholarship Majors

FSA National Scholars are required to study the following related disciplines:

- Agriculture
 - Agricultural Business/Management
 - Agricultural Economics
 - other related disciplines, such as computer science, business administration.
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Nomination Procedure and Deadline

Submit all application materials postmarked and sent to each of the institution(s) selected by the applicant to attend. Applications for the 2003 school year must be received by **January 15, 2003**. Applications are available on line at **<http://1890Scholars.Program.USDA.gov>**.
